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Governors Issues Blueprint on the Employment of People with Disabilities

Last week, the National Governors Association (NGA) released a [Blueprint on the Employment of People with Disabilities](#). The findings represent the culmination of NGA Chair Governor Jack Markell and many of his counterparts' year-long effort to determine workable strategies to increase the employment of Americans with disabilities.

The report offers practical advice on engaging people with disabilities in the workforce. It also provides insight for both private and public sector employers about recruiting and retaining people with disabilities and the benefits to a company's bottom line.

[Click here](#) for more information and to download the Blueprint.

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21 Million People Turn to National Health Centers for Primary Care: National Health Center Week Is August 11-17, 2013

Today, approximately 1,200 health centers operate nearly 9,000 service delivery sites that provided care to more than 21 million patients in every State, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and the Pacific Basin. This week is [National Health Center Week](#), a time to recognize the service of this network of community health providers.

This year's theme is *Celebrating America's Health Centers: Transforming Health Care in Our Local Communities*. To find celebration activities in your

community, visit the National Health Center Week [Event Map](#). You can also add your event to the map.

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Affordable Care Act/Health Insurance Marketplace

Sebelius Video Addresses the Importance of the Affordable Care Act in Responding to HIV/AIDS

In a new video, Secretary of Health and Human Services Kathleen Sebelius discusses some of the ways the [Affordable Care Act](#) is supporting people at risk for or living with HIV. In this video, she highlights how this historic expansion of access to health care coverage for millions of uninsured Americans also brings important preventive and care benefits to people at risk for and living with HIV. These benefits include requirements that new private health care plans cover HIV testing and other preventive services without any additional out-of-pocket costs and starting in 2014, the law prohibits health insurance plans from refusing to cover you or charge you more just because you have a pre-existing health condition, a practice that in the past shut many people living with HIV out of the health insurance market. [Watch the video](#).

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New Tool for Small Business Owners to Shop for Coverage and Get Answers

The [Small Business Health Options Program \(SHOP\)](#) is a new program that simplifies the process of buying health insurance for small business owners. Now, they can get help with their health insurance questions by calling the Health Insurance Marketplace Small Employer call center. Customer Service representatives will be available at 1-800-706-7893 or (TTY: 1-800-706-7915) to answer your questions. The call center is open Monday through Friday 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. EST.

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Funding Opportunities

Network and Infrastructure Support for Development of Interdisciplinary Aging Research

This funding opportunity, from the National Institutes of Health, provides network and infrastructure support to foster development of novel

interdisciplinary research approaches on aging research related to multiple chronic conditions (MCCs). [Click here](#) to download the complete funding opportunity announcement. **Applications are due on September 25, 2013, by 5:00 p.m. local time of applicant organization.**

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Health Resources and Services Administration Launches *Care Counts: Educating Women and Families Challenge*

Last week, the Department of Health and Human Services Health Resources and Services Administration launched *Care Counts: Educating Women and Families Challenge*. This new challenge seeks to raise awareness about the new Health Insurance Marketplace and important benefits for women made possible by the Affordable Care Act. It will award a total of \$25,000 in prizes.

This Challenge calls for the creation of an innovative, educational tool that informs women about enrollment in their State's Marketplace as well as key provisions of the Affordable Care Act designed specifically to improve their health and that of their families. For more information, go to the [Care Counts Challenge webpage](#).

The deadline for submissions is 11:00 p.m. ET on August 30, 2013.

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Webinars & Conference Calls

2013 Webinar Series on Alzheimer's Disease and Resources

Tuesday, August 20, 2013 at 1:30 p.m. ET: The National Institute on Aging and the Administration for Community Living invite you to participate in the next session of the five part webinar series Alzheimer's Disease and Resources.

Session #4, [Younger Onset Dementia](#), will focus on dementias that typically occur before age 65: Alzheimer's disease, behavioral variant frontotemporal degeneration, and primary progressive aphasia. This session will also discuss the specific developmental, relational, and financial impacts of younger onset dementias, as well as detection, diagnosis, resources, and research directions.

[Register](#).

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Webinar on Health Care for Aging Adults with Intellectual/Developmental Disabilities

Wednesday, August 21, 2013, 2:00 p.m. ET: Sponsored by The Arc, this webinar will focus on:

- Practical policy implications of transitioning from "Person with Disabilities" to "Senior Citizen" status.
- Lack of knowledge among healthcare professionals to provide appropriate care for Adults with Intellectual/ Developmental Disabilities population.
- Availability of informal supports for aging parents and siblings.
- End of life care.

[Register.](#)

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Webinar on Falls Prevention

Thursday, August 22, 2013 at 1:30 p.m. ET: Join the National Council on Aging for the webinar *Get ready for Falls Prevention Awareness Day 2013*. A panel of researchers, educators, and program leaders from across the country will share their innovative partnerships to promote falls prevention and discover new resources that you can use to spread the word. [Register.](#)



Falls Prevention Awareness Day, September 22, 2013

The 6th annual National Falls Prevention Awareness Day will be observed on September 22, 2013 to promote and increase public awareness about how to prevent and reduce falls among older adults. This year's theme, *Preventing Falls—One Step at a Time*, seeks to unite professionals, older adults, caregivers, and family members to play a part in raising awareness and preventing falls. [Click here](#) to learn more and to download the media toolkit.

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Tools & Information

New Population Reference Bureau Brief Focuses on the Demographics and Economics of Aging

[Helping Americans Age in Place](#), a new brief from the Population Reference Bureau, focuses on the demographics and economics of aging with particular reference to the Older Americans Act (OAA). The brief draws on findings from researchers on the health, economic circumstances, and social well-being of older Americans that might inform OAA community programs in the areas of:

- Disability
- Elder abuse
- Caregiving
- Long-term care
- Cognitive impairment
- Civic engagement

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Take the UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction Survey on Living with Disabilities and Disasters

On October 13, the United Nations (UN) International Day for Disaster Reduction will focus on the issues surrounding some one billion of the world's people who live with disabilities and disaster risks. The International Day intends to switch on and amplify the conversation that must take place on the needs of persons with disabilities in potential disaster scenarios. The UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction is asking persons living with disabilities to complete this [survey](#) to ascertain the needs of persons living with disabilities and disasters.

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